

FACTS ABOUT**Short-Haul Exemptions***Heavy-Duty Vehicle Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Regulation*

The Heavy-Duty Vehicle Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Regulation (or Tractor-Trailer GHG Regulation), approved by the California Air Resources Board (ARB), was developed to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions produced by certain heavy-duty tractors and trailers that operate on California highways. The regulation requires the use of US EPA SmartWay verified aerodynamic equipment and low rolling resistance tires, which will provide fuel efficiency improvements for these vehicles. The regulation also provides an exemption for certain tractor-trailers that drive a limited number of miles per year, as explained in this document.

Who must comply with the regulation?

This regulation affects all 53-foot or longer box-type trailers (affected trailers), including dry vans and refrigerated vans, that operate in California, no matter where they are domiciled, and the heavy-duty tractors that pull them (affected tractors).

What are the requirements to qualify for the short-haul tractor exemption?

A short-haul tractor is an affected tractor that travels less than 50,000 miles per year (total mileage in and out of California). It must be registered with ARB for the exemption.

What does the short-haul tractor exemption offer?

If registered with ARB and updated on an annual basis, a short-haul tractor is exempt from all the requirements of this regulation when pulling an affected trailer in California. What this means is:

- A newer (2011 model year and newer) tractor used exclusively for short-haul purposes that registers as such with ARB does not need to be SmartWay certified.
- An older (2010 and older) tractor used exclusively for short-haul purposes that registers as such with ARB does not need to use low rolling resistance tires.

Is there an exemption for short-haul trailers?

Technically, this regulation does not define a “short-haul trailer,” and there is no registration for a short-haul trailer exemption. However, any affected trailer pulled by an exempt short-haul tractor is automatically exempt from the requirements of this regulation while it is being pulled by a registered short-haul tractor. The exemption does not apply when pulled by a non-registered tractor.

What exemption does a trailer have when pulled by a short-haul tractor?

A trailer pulled by a registered short-haul tractor is exempt from using low rolling resistance tires and aerodynamic technologies. If the same trailer is pulled by a non-exempt tractor in California, the trailer would need to meet the tire and aerodynamic requirements of the regulation or be in violation of it.

How do I register my short-haul tractor for the exemption?

ARB provides an on-line database called TRUCRS (Truck Regulation Upload Compliance and Reporting System) through which you can register for the short-haul exemption. The database is available through ARB’s website at: www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/onrdiesel/reporting.htm

When do I register my tractor for the short-haul exemption?

If you want to receive a short-haul exemption for your tractor and avoid being in violation of this regulation, the following registration time frames should be considered:

- 2011 and newer model year tractors that would be affected by this regulation and want to receive a short-haul exemption must be registered for the exemption before operating them on a California highway
- Pre-2011 model year tractors that want a short-haul exemption should be registered by January 1, 2012

How long will the short-haul exemption be in effect?

Since the short-haul exemption is based on driving less than 50,000 miles per year, the exemption must be renewed annually, by reporting the total number of miles traveled, both in and out of California. Annual reports must be made before the anniversary of a tractor's date of registration, but no earlier than 30 days prior to it. The exemption may be renewed each year for as long as the tractor travels within the 50,000 mile per year limit. However, if the tractor operates more than 50,000 miles in a year, it will lose its exemption. The truck owner must then register this change in status in the TRUCRS database, and cannot reapply for the short-haul exemption until 36 months from the date it lost its exemption.

What information must I provide to register my tractor?

To register for a short-haul exemption, the owner or person leasing the tractor or trailer must submit information to ARB, including owner contact information, fleet information, and a signed agreement. The specific information that must be provided is available in the regulation.

For More Information

Please contact ARB's diesel hotline at (866) 6DIESEL (634-3735) or visit our website at www.arb.ca.gov/cc/hdghg/hdghg.htm.

To obtain this document in an alternative format or language please contact the ARB's Helpline at (800) 242-4450 or at helpline@arb.ca.gov. TTY/TDD/ Speech to Speech users may dial 711 for the California Relay Service.